

Abstract of the Invention

The present invention relates to systems and methods that provide Web-based interaction with components (*e.g.*, controllers, devices, systems, computers, *etc.*) residing on TCP/IP (*e.g.*, Ethernet/IP) and/or non-TCP/IP (*e.g.*, DeviceNet and ControlNet) based networks. The systems and methods utilize a novel approach wherein an interface component and an engine, along with software that enables Web functionality for non-TCP/IP-based networks, are employed in connection with a computing system or a module. A user can access the interface component *via* any known means utilized to communicate with TCP/IP-based networks such as an Internet connection and Web browser. From the interface component, the engine can be invoked to discover disparate networks and/or associated devices, and/or provide access to such entities. In addition, the discovered devices can be dynamically updated to reflect a present state. The user and/or a device can employ the interface component to communicate with, monitor, control and configure any discovered device.

15